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Commission Meeting

March 23, 2004 @ 3:00 p.m.

Department of Education 1135 Lincoln Street, Conference Room E - Red Bluff, CA 96080

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: William Clybourn, Bob Douglas (entered during Director's Report); Jeannie Jacobs; Mildred H. Johnstone; Valerie Lucero, and George Russell

ABSENT: Paula Brown-Almond, Christine C. Applegate, Connie Massie

1. PUBLIC COMMENT – Introduction and welcome to new Tehama County Director of Northern Valley Catholic Social Service, Ted Klemm. Mr. Klemm related his long history of working with various agencies in Tehama County while in employed in Butte County.

2. CONSENT AGENDA: *These items include routine fiscal and administrative actions to be approved by a single majority vote.*

2.1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (February 2004)

2.2. GENERAL WARRANT REGISTER (February 2004)

2.3. CLAIMS (None)

- Commissioner George Russell made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as detailed, Commissioner Valerie Lucero seconded, motion carried 5 to 0.

3. REGULAR AGENDA:

3.1. INFORMATIONAL: Appointment of Public At-Large Representatives

- Paula Brown-Almond, Project Director of Tehama County's Early Reading First program, was reappointed and William Clybourn, Executive Director of Lassen Medical Associates, Inc., was appointed as Public At-Large Representatives for three-year terms, expiring 1/31/07.
- A certificate of appreciation of appreciation was given to Gloria Lofthus for her past service to the Commission.

3.2. INFORMATIONAL: Director's Report

- First 5 California Statewide Conference Update: Excited to report that so far three Commissioners, six grantee representatives (School Readiness Coordinator, Los Molinos Elementary Principal, Gerber Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher; Head Teacher from Creative Learning Center; Local Child Care Planning Council Coordinator; and Child Care Referral and Education's Informal Caregiver Home

Visiting and Training Program Coordinator) and the Commission Executive Director will be attending the conference in Burlingame in April. Michelle Kinner from Child Care Referral and Education will be attending the conference and will be a presenter on the Childcare Retention Incentive Program's Early Entry Component.

- Attended First 5 Association of California meeting this month. Topics included developing concrete concepts for outreach products to "Tell our Story", discussed ways in which smaller counties that are unable to participate fully in the major state initiatives (Health Access and Preschool for All) can benefit from the efforts of the State Commission and the larger counties who are participating, also discussed concrete proposals for state-county media relations to identify opportunities for stronger collaboration with the State Commission, and county and regional updates.
- Also attended the State Commission meeting where the State Commission discussed the continued special funding for small and rural County Commissions among other items including Preschool for All (PFA) updates and the Informal Caregiver Initiative funding for development and production of a new PBS program designed to provide early education strategies and child development information to home-based caregivers. The State Commission staff discussed the Preschool for All Initiative and in light of policy unknowns, recommended funding planning grants to county commissions that meet six threshold criteria. Continued planning will be encouraged while allowing the policy and funding environment to become clearer. Thirteen county commissions have indicated that they meet the criteria and wish to participate.
- Oral health and health access continue to be the major topics discussed at Regional Executive Director's meeting. Partners will be invited to our next meeting in May, including Speranza Avram of the Rural Health Network. The first regional training topic will be oral health issues and strategies. Training will include education in the morning with a practicum in the afternoon.
- Attended a Statewide Evaluation Regional Workshop in Sacramento along with Cathy Minicucci, Evaluation Consultant, and Jennifer Shortt, School Readiness Coordinator. Topics included ways to locally utilize population based and annual report data.
- Informal Networking Meeting of Early Childhood Educators took place March 3rd. Attendees reviewed and discussed the February 26, 2004, fact sheet of the California Department of Education 2004-2005 Governor's Budget Proposal – Child Development Programs. Attendees also discussed how to keep county officials, department heads, and program administrators informed as to the current child care needs and how proposed cuts will impact the current needs.
- Rhonda Meadows, Commission Secretary, conducted a Kit for New Parents training for nineteen Case Managers of the Tehama County Health Services Agency, Public Health Division – upon completion of the training the managers decided to review two of the videos to better understand the content of the materials is being shared with the clients.

- The School Readiness Coordinator conducted the first SR Collaborative Networking Brunch at the Los Molinos Elementary School on March 23 from 9 – 10:30 a.m. Approximately seventeen partners attended with Paula Brown-Almond, Jennifer Shortt, and Cathy Minicucci speaking on topics such what does School Readiness look like; true collaboration and the different levels; School Readiness evaluation design; and the important role of the School Readiness advisory committee.
- Director Snider reported that the Communication Committee will meet after the meeting to review the draft Key Messages as developed at the Media Training held in January.

3.3. DISCUSSION: Report on Proposal Process (Enclosure)

- The pre-qualification proposal scoring summary was reviewed. On March 9, 2004, an individual, one-hour technical assistance session was held for applicants who are eligible to submit a full Request for Proposal – the RFPs are due to the Commission office by 4 p.m. on May 5, 2004.

3.4. ACTION PLAN UPDATE:

- ACTION - Tabled: Item 11.3 Develop protocols – Vice Chairperson Mildred Johnstone appointed Bill Clybourn and Valerie Lucero to the ad-hoc committee to review contract protocols once drafts are completed.
 - Commissioner Bob Douglas made the motion to table the appointment of the ad-hoc committee to review draft contract protocols until a third person can be added, Commissioner Jeannie Jacobs seconded, motion carried 6 to 0.

3.5. INFORMATIONAL: Commissioner Updates

- Commissioner Bob Douglas: Jane Henderson presented at the County Superintendent Association meeting on Preschool for All (PFA). Commissioner Douglas will forward copies of the materials distributed to Director Snider and the Commission. Ms. Henderson reviewed what the State Commission is proposing and how it is dependent upon legislation in order to move forward. The County Superintendent Association appointed an Early Childhood Child Development Task Force to study this policy issue (PFA) in order to make recommendations on positions they will take together as a group.

The State Department of Education has approached the Superintendent's Regional training structure to hire staff to do coordination for school readiness. This will be done in concert with the CalNet grant. Staff will be hired at each county office to work on school readiness and the CalNet staff development process. Tehama County has also been selected to be the central network for the northern nine counties (our region) to do the school readiness training coordination.

- Commissioner George Russell: If the proposed Governors budget passes, the \$1.38 billion in property taxes proposed for various projects by the governor will take

services from counties across California – which breaks out to an estimated 15% of the workforce lost in Tehama County next year. The fiscal crisis has only begun.

- Commissioner Mildred H. Johnstone: Just returned from Sacramento and it did not go quite as well as the senior group had hoped; only 4 the items on their list for funding were received and those will only be partially funded... and yes the fiscal crisis has only just begun.

3.6. ADJOURN

Next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2004

Communications received by the FIRST 5 TEHAMA, Tehama County Children and Families Commission and Commissioner Information Packets are on file at the Office of the Program Director, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff.

If you need disability modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission office at (530) 528-1395 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government code Section 54954.2(a).

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